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3 August 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]  
General Allen

SUBJECT: COINS Files

1. I asked for this rundown on the types of files in the COINS system. The break down of files by type, labeled Attachment A, illustrates what I consider to be the greatest failing of COINS. Only three of the files contain finished intelligence. The finished intelligence in the three files is of limited use. The raw information and evaluated data (much of which looks very raw to me on the basis of the description in the body of the report), plus the reference aids, are of narrow application and unlikely to make the COINS system useful or interesting to most of the intelligence community.

2. I think some reasonable questions to the COINS [redacted] would be: Why aren't personality files in COINS? Wouldn't it be useful to have Order of Battle data on foreign armies, navies, and air forces in the file? Why not characteristics of important Free World and communist weapons systems?

3. In my view the expansion of the finished intelligence files available to users of the COINS system is our best hope of reducing the total output of hard copy basic intelligence. When such hard copy is no longer available, COINS will be used.

15/  
Daniel O. Graham  
Major General, USA

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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